

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-14 A-01 /085 W

-----040114Z 055118 /62

R 031328Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1693

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 189

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: TERRORISM: THREE POLICEMEN DIE IN PROVISIONAL AMBUSH

1. THREE ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY (RUC) CONSTABLES WERE KILLED BY PROVISIONAL IRA TERRORISTS USING ARMALITE RIFLES IN AN AMBUSH IN RURAL AREA COUNTY TYRONE AFTERNOON JUNE 2. GUNMEN USED FARMHOUSE TO WAIT FOR POLICE AUTOMOBILE AND HELD HOUSEWIFE AND TWO CHILDREN AS HOSTAGES. FIRST REACTION WAS FROM SPOKESMAN OF POLICE FEDERATION WHO BLAMED PAUCITY OF ARMY SUPPORT ON GROUND IN FORM OF PATROLS AND STATIC CHECKPOINTS FOR SECURITY WEAKNESS IN AREA. IN RADIO INTERVIEW HE STATED SECRETARY OF STATE HAD PREVIOUSLY ASSURED HIM THAT 14000 PLUS TROOPS IN PROVINCE COULD BE BOLSTERED BY SPEARHEAD BATTALION. POLICE FEDERATION SPOKESMAN SAID IF 14,000 TROOPS WERE ACTUALLY IN PROVINCE THEY WERE NOT RPT NOT ON GROUND AND HE CALLED FOR REINFORCEMENTS TO COME AS THEY HAD COME FOR LOYALIST STRIKE.

2. KILLINGS CONDEMNED FROM ALL SIDES. BELFAST IRISH NEWS WITH CATHOLIC READERSHIP DEVOTED ALMOST HALF OF FRONT PAGE JUNE 3 TO STORY. THE SIX NORTHERN IRELAND RC BISHOPS ISSUED STATEMENT DESCRIBING MURDERS AS ATROCITY AND CALLING ON "ALL UNCLASSIFIED

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OUR PEOPLE TO COOPERATE IN THE APPREHENSION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AND SIMILAR CRIMES." MP GERRY FITT LEADER OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY ASKED ANYONE WHO KNEW IDENTITY OF ANY SUCH MURDERERS TO GIVE THE INFORMATION TO POLICE. FATHER DENIS FAUL OF DUNGANNON, KNOWN FOR HIS VIGOROUS PURSUIT OF ANY ALLEGED OFFENSE BY THE SECURITY FORCES, CALLED FOR PROVISIONALS TO DECLARE UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE.

3. IT RECALLED DEMAND FOR TOUGHER SECURITY MEASURES WAS PRIMARY
ISSUE IN LOYALIST GENERAL STRIKE LAST MONTH. LATEST INCIDENT
WILL ENERGIZE CRITICS OF BRITISH POLICY AND FEED SUSPICIONS
OF THOSE WHO SEE BRITISH AS SEEKING TO "ULSTERIZE" CONFLICT.
THERE SOME SPECULATION THAT PROVISIONALS WOULD LIKE TO MAKE
PARTS OF TYRONE, WHERE TERRAIN IS SIMLAR TO SOUGH ARMAGH, INTO
ANOTHER "NO-GO" AREA FOR RUC. IF THEY SUCCEED, SIZEABLE NUMBER
OF ADDITIONAL TROOPS WILL HAVE TO BE COMMITTED.SPICER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRORISTS, POLICE FORCES, DEATHS, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D770199-0351
Format: TEL
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Line Count: 71
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 68e64086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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